

On page 2 of the translation, European Published Application 0 361 192 and German 37 32 249 were cited along with WO 89/00346 and WO 96/09646. Copies of these four references are attached herewith. Also attached herewith is U.S. Patent No. 4,493,346, which claims priority from the same German Application as the European Application; U.S. Patent No. 5,069,626, whose parent application was the basis for WO 89/00346; and U.S. Patent No. 5,929,516, which is a National Stage of the PCT Application resulting in WO 96/09646. On page 3 of the translation of the PCT Application, U.S. Patent No. 5,477,087 was cited. A copy of this reference is also attached herewith. It is respectfully submitted that the specification distinguishes the claims of the present application over the teachings of these nine references.

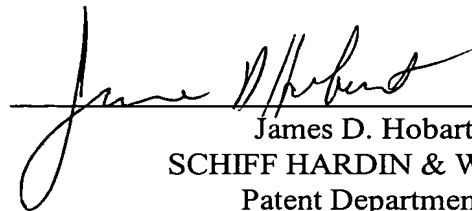
In the International Search Report dated August 18, 2000, in addition to citing WO 96/09646, the Search Report also cites, in Category A, U.S. Patent No. 5,736,790; German 197 43 767 and five Patent Abstracts of Japan. Copies of these five Abstracts along with U.S. Patent No. 5,736,790 and German 197 43 767 are attached herewith.

Also attached herewith is U.S. Patent No. 6,162,664, which claims priority from the same Korean Application as German 197 43 767. It is submitted that, since these references were all cited in Category A, which is technical background, the claims are patentable over these references, which were considered by the European Patent Office in making the International Examination Report mentioned hereinabove.

Also attached herewith is U.S. Patent No. 6,249,048, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,925,516 and also U.S. Patent No. 5,783,465, which is provided for technical background.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-6 are patentable over the attached eight U.S. Patents, the five foreign patent documents and the five Japanese Abstracts.

Respectfully submitted,

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